

BOARD MINUTES

RANDOLPH COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Asheboro, North Carolina

February 14, 2005

Supervisors Present:

Craig Frazier, Chairman
William Alston, V. Chairman
Richard Canoy, Secretary
Shaun Hayes, Member
Amy Hughes, Member

Others Present:

Barton Roberson, DC
Jenny Parks, Admin. Assist.
Danielle Thomas, Soil Con.
Bob Abell, Soil Con. Tech.
John Hill, Soil Con. Tech.
Kelly Whitaker, S&W Eng.

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 a.m. Frazier welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Travel vouchers were signed and returned.

ACTION ITEMS:

January 7, 2005 minutes were reviewed and corrections were made. Canoy moved, seconded by Alston, the board voted unanimously to approve minutes as corrected.

Parks presented the Treasurer's Report. Canoy moved, seconded by Alston, the board voted unanimously to accept the Treasurer's Report. A copy is attached to these minutes.

Roberson gave the NRCS Report as follows:

- Work continues with EQIP. The deadline for this batching period is Friday, February 18, 2005, although applications will be accepted continually. Randolph County has been allocated \$240,000 this year for EQIP.
- Roberson shared with the board the pond estimates from NRCS for Ken Cox and Jonathan Brubaker. The NRCS engineer estimates that were reported are higher than the initial estimate. The producers have the option of either constructing or not constructing with no penalties.
- Thomas has been out on several operations to gain exposure to different types of operations.
- Wetland/HEL Determinations continue as requests come into the office.
- The Voluntary Ag District program in Randolph County was discussed briefly.
- Roberson will be attending a meeting this morning at the NC Zoo on behalf of NRCS regarding the Piedmont Land Conservancy with Steve Stedham.

At this time the office space was discussed. Currently FSA, NRCS, and RD have signed a draft agreement with GSA on the rental of the office space in the Farmer's Mutual Building. As of 2/9/05 the local Soil and Water District, being a County Department, could not be within GSA space/walls, which left 280 square feet of space available to lease by the District. Hughes moved that the District pursue rental of the 280 square feet in the Farmer's Mutual Building, seconded by Alston, discussion followed motion. After discussion, Hughes withdrew her original motion; Alston withdrew his second, motion died. Alston moved, seconded by Hughes, the board voted

unanimously that the district pursue lease of the 280 square feet in the Farmer's Mutual Building on the terms of the District at a lower lease rate and if terms cannot be agreed on then the District will seek other office space.

Alston gave the RC&D Report as follows:

-Alston reported that he gave an RC&D presentation during the NCASWCD Annual Meeting in January.

-The local council of the PCC would like to recommend Betsy Moody to the County Commissioners as their representative on the local council. Currently the seat is vacant.

Alston moved, seconded by Hayes, the board voted unanimously to pay the Area 3 Annual Dues of \$125.00 (\$75 is for operating expense of Area 3 and \$50 goes toward the teacher workshop).

Alston reported that the Area 3 Spring Meeting will be held Thursday, March 3rd in Guilford County at the NC Agricultural and Technical State University Farm with a focus on Alternative Agricultural Practices. The pre-registration cost is \$25 and registration at the door will be \$30. Pre-registration deadline is Friday, February 18, 2005.

Information on the NCASWCD Hall of Fame nominations was presented to the board. The board will not be recommending anyone at this time for the Hall of Fame.

Whitaker gave the NCACSP Report as follows:

-An application for Mickey Bowman was presented to the board for approval. He is requesting funding for composter and a drystack. Hughes moved, seconded by Canoy, the board voted unanimously to approve this application. Bowman will need to complete the separate certification page for New/Beginning Farmer and Limited Resource Farmer.

-An application for Kent Atkinson was presented to the board for approval. He is requesting funding for a waste storage structure. Hughes moved, seconded by Canoy, the board voted unanimously to approve this application.

-An application for Kenneth Briles was presented to the board for approval. He is requesting funding for an incinerator. Hughes moved, seconded by Canoy, the board voted unanimously to approve this application.

-A Notice of Contract Expiration for Joe Capps, contract #76-03-09-02 was presented to the board. Mr. Capps expressed that he wished to cancel his contract. Frazier signed the expiration form. No vote was needed due to producer canceling the contract.

-A Notice of Contract Expiration for Billy Ferree, contract #76-03-10-02 was presented to the board. Mr. Ferree's contract was extended last year, but the producer has not responded and contract extension has expired. Hughes moved, seconded by Canoy, the board voted unanimously to cancel his contract due to no response from Mr. Ferree. Frazier signed the expiration form.

-Whitaker reported that at the March Board Meeting the board will have contracts for Gary Lineberry, Randy Jessup, and possibly Jerry Brown to approve.

-Whitaker reported that the Division has asked districts to submit a request for supplemental allocations for NCACS. Further information will follow as information regarding supplemental allocations becomes available.

-Whitaker reported that Howard Jones supplemental contract has been paid. (Contract #76-05-02SU)

Whitaker gave the Community Conservation Report as follows:

- Discussion was had regarding grant writing fees – committee will meet and report back regarding this issue.
- Urban Cost Share Program - Whitaker reported that she should have a draft application to present to the board in March that will be reviewed to apply for Clean Water Management Trust Fund grant money toward an Urban Cost Share Program.
- Alston moved, seconded by Hayes, the board voted unanimously to host a rain barrel sale during Earth Week in April.
- Whitaker reported that she has submitted two applications to the NC Soil & Water Foundation applying for grants to close two lagoons. The District should know something by the first of March. Further information will follow as it becomes available.
- Hayes moved, seconded by Canoy, the board voted unanimously that Whitaker look into the assisting Sunset Theater with grant writing.

Information was provided to the board regarding the NC Mushroom Growers Association.

Information was presented to the board regarding the Resource Conservation Workshop. Letters have been mailed to all private/Christian/home schools as well as Asheboro City Schools and the Randolph County Board of Education.

The following consent items were approved:

- February & March Calendars
- Employee Weekly Logs
- eNotes (1/11/05; 1/18/05; 1/25/05; 2/1/05)
- One NC Naturally Conference Information

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

Chairman Signature

Date Approved Minutes

The Next Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting will be March 14, 2005 at 7:30 a.m.
Federal Building
241 Sunset Avenue, Asheboro, NC 27203